



**Town Of Clarkson
Office of the Supervisor
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan**

Appendix B –3N

Hazard Specific Analysis: Blizzard

Definition:

“Snow with winds greater than 35 mph and limited visibility. Additionally, a severe blizzard is snow with wind over 45 mph and near zero visibility.”¹

Description:

Blizzards are frequent, widespread, and potentially life threatening events within the Town Of Clarkson. Blizzards are likely to be prolonged events, and are capable of limiting transportation, delaying emergency response, and inhibiting communication. Blizzards may cause cascade events, such as flooding, power failure, and transportation accidents. The annual likelihood of this event occurring is reflected in the hazard rank of 3

Overview of specific hazard locations and the extent of the hazard:

While blizzards may affect any part or all of the Town Of Clarkson, these areas have been selected for their high potential for hazard:

- ?? Roads and highways, particularly routes NY 104, NY 19, NY 260, NY 31 and Redman Road.
- ?? Buildings and other structures that are prone to collapse from excessive weight.
- ?? This event may also cause ice jams, power failures, transportation accidents, or floods as cascade events.
- ?? This event can limit emergency response and communications.

Previous occurrences of the hazard:

The Town Of Clarkson may experiences blizzards annually. The most significant of these events in the recent past occurred in 1966, 1977, 1993 and 1999. The blizzards of 1993 and 1999 prompted activation of the County’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

¹ HAZNY

Probability of future occurrences and potential magnitude:

Probability of future occurrences is very high. The Town Of Clarkson experiences blizzards of varying magnitude. Due to the wide spread geographic area and probability for cascade effects, the potential magnitude of this event is very high.

Maps of hazard areas:

Map is not required due to widespread geographic potential.

Analysis of the impact on business, infrastructure & critical facilities:

This event may:

- ?? Cause failure of utility systems.
- ?? Delay or restrict transportation.
- ?? Cause damage to buildings, and other structures.
- ?? Restrict emergency response, and hamper emergency communications.

Specific information concerning estimated value (\$) of potential loss, damage to structures, casualties, etc:

Specific information on loss is pending.

Notes on data limitations: None